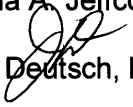


PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Abandoned Mine Lands Division

Memorandum

TO: Commissioners Kalk, Cramer and Fetch
Darrell Nitschke
Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco

From:  Jim Deutsch, Director - AML Division

Date: September 24, 2012

Subject: Contract for the 2012 Coal Fire Suppression project

In July OSM approved our special grant application for \$35,000 to extinguish coal outcrop fires at three sites on U.S. Forest Service lands in McKenzie and Slope County. The AML Division (Bill Dodd) then prepared an Invitation for Bids in August for the 2012 Coal Fire Suppression project. These coal fires were likely started by grass fires and they pose a serious risk for starting other grass fires in the future. The coal fire suppression project involves the excavation of earthen materials to expose the burning coal seams, digging trenches to place the burning materials and the mixing of the burning coal with clay or other materials, covering the trenches, placing earthen materials against the coal face, and respreading the topsoil that is saved. The bid opening for this project was held on September 6th and two bids were received.

The low bid was received from Baranko Bros. Inc. of Dickinson, ND, in the amount of \$27,000. The other bid was from JDC Industries, LLC of Powers Lake in the amount of \$32,400. The notice of intent to award a contract to Baranko Bros. was issued on September 10th. The other bidder did not appeal the Intent to Award and a contract was sent to Baranko Bros. for signing on September 18th. The signed contract has been returned and it is now ready for execution by the Commission.

I recommend the Commission execute the contract with Baranko Bros. Inc. in the amount of \$27,000 for the 2012 Coal Fire Suppression project. Attached is a motion for the September 27th Commission meeting to execute the contract.

Attachment

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